present it occurs in small numbers in the Nagarjunasagar reservoir. *H. kurali* is found in small numbers in the fast flowing hill streams in forested areas in the west flowing rivers of the Western Ghats. *H. kurali* is protected in the Kolathupuzha Temple Sanctuary, Kerala.

Range: INDIA: Dakshin Kannada to Travancore hills, along the western face of Western Ghats.

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# ON A NEW SUBSPECIES OF XANTHOPIMPLA SAUSSURE (HYMENOPTERA: ICHNEUMONIDAE) IN INDIA<sup>1</sup>

R. P. Patil<sup>2</sup> and P. K. Nikam<sup>3</sup> (*With a text-figure*)

A new sub species of *Xanthopimpla* Saussure (1892), *Xanthopimpla minuta aurangabadensis*, subsp. nov. belonging to Trunca species group from India, collected from India (Maharashtra: Aurangabad) is described and illustrated.

The genus *Xanthopimpla* has been catalogued by Townes, *et al.* (1961). The genus *Xanthopimpla* Saussure (1892) belongs to the tribe Ephialtini of the subfamily Pimplinae (Gupta 1987).

Townes and Chiu (1970) revised the Indo-Australian species of *Xanthopimpla* and provided a reliable key to the species of this genus; the same has been adopted in the present work. Both workers divided the species of *Xanthopimpla* into 22 species groups, of which the following 9 species groups of *Xanthopimpla* so far have been recorded from Maharashtra, India, namely (1) Regina, (2)

Stemmator, (3) Citrina, (4) Cuneata, (5) Nana, (6) Brachycentra, (7) Occidentalis, (8) Punctata and (9) Incompleta. In the present work, another group Trunca has been recorded and a new subspecies, *Xanthopimpla minuta aurangabadensis*, is described.

# Xanthopimpla minuta aurangabadensis

subsp. nov. (Fig. 1 a-c)

FEMALE: Body length 9.2-9.5 mm (Fig. 1b). Head (Fig. 1a) in front view 0.75 times as long as broad, vertex sparsely punctate; occiput finely punctate, shiny; temple smooth above, sparsely punctate below; ocello-occular distance equal to their diameter; interocellar distance 0.65-0.70 times the ocello-occular distance; inner margin of the eye

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sharply indented opposite to the antennal sockets; frons deplanate, medially elevated, the lateral concavities deep, smooth, shiny; antenna, 2+37 segmented, filiform; scape twice as long as broad; pedicel as long as broad; scape and pedicel hairy, punctate, first flagellar segment 1.50x as long as second flagellar segment; terminal segment 2.65x as long as broad; face 0.9 times as long as broad, pilose, tamidulous, with distinct coarse punctures, separated by the distance of their diameter; clypeus 0.30-0.35 times as long as broad, separated from face, subdivided by a transverse suture, basally flat, apically convex, sparsely punctate, spinose, its apical margin medially concave; clypeal fovea circular and deep; malar space 0.35 times the basal width of mandible; mandible twice as long as its basal width, provided with long hairs, punctate, equidentate and with a distinct ventral flange; occipital carina complete, strongly arched, joining at the base of genal carina.

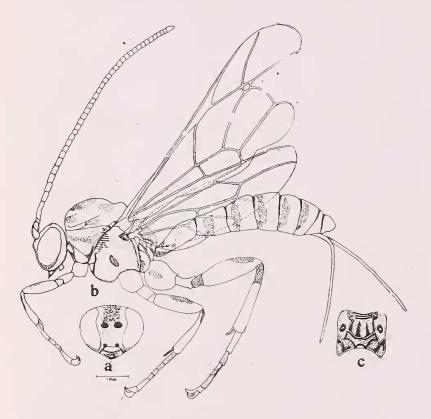


Fig. 1. Xanthopimpla minuta aurangabadensis subsp. nov. a. Head, front view; b. Lateral view entire; c. Propodeum.

Thorax 1.40x as long as broad, moderately pubescent, collar round, rarely pubescent; pronotum pubescent, finely punctate, weakly convex; notaulus distinct, running beyond the middle half, nearly twice

the length of tegula; scutellum roundly convex, hairy, densely punctate, its lateral carina reaching up to apex; post-scutellum microsculpture same as that of scutellum; propodeum (Fig. 1c) polished, shiny, laterally sparsely hairy, distinctly carinated, basal area nearly squarish, petiolar and postpetiolar area confluent and appears pentagonal; pleural areas undivided; propodeal spiracle elongate, twice as long as broad; propleurum finely punctate; mesopleurum medially highly elevated; anterio-dorsally with a few acciculations, densely punctate, speculum shiny, sparsely punctate, its fovea shallow; prepectal carina short, reaching below the middle half of mesopleurum; post-pectal carina with median notch; metapleurum pellucid; submetapleural carina distinct, with a flange at anterio-ventral position near mid-coxa. Legs short and strong, tarsal claws very large and sharp, provided with the largest hair; hind coxae 1.25-1.30x as long as the length of the trochanters combined; hind femur 0.90 times as long as hind tibia; basitarsus subequal to the pretarsal length and twice the length of longer spur. Forewing 3.70x as long as broad; stigma five times as long as broad; the basal abscissa of radius 0.60 times the apical abscissa; nervulus slightly distad; areolet closed; second intercubitus medially fenestrated; second recurrent emits beyond the middle, geniculate, bifenestrated; discocubital cell 2.8x as long as broad; basal abscissa of subdiscoideus 1.75x the apical abscissa, nervulus half the postnervulus. Hind wing 2.60x as long as broad; nervulus intercepted above the middle, inclivous; hamuli 1+8.

Abdomen 1.55x the length of head and thorax combined, pubescent, dorsoventrally flattened; first tergite 1.75x as long as broad, laterads with a row of long hairs, subapically slightly grooved; second tergite 0.70 times as long as broad, coarsely punctate, rest of the abdominal tergites punctate; ovipositor 1.90-2.0x the length of hind tibia, long, stout, obliquely riged.

**Body**: Yellowish with black markings-Ocellar triangle, a transverse band dorsomedially on occiput, a mark on the outer side of the scape and the pedicel, a longitudinal band dorsomedially ending into a triangular mark near the base of the scutellum, two

longitudinal bands on mesoscutum, a pair of roundish marks joined by narrow band on the basal area of propodeum, a spot below the subtegular ridge, a longitudinal mark anteriorly and a large spot on the speculum of the mesopleurum, subapical tranverse band on first tergite and trans-band basally on rest of the tergites, stigma and nervures black. Flagellum, mark on the mid femur, base of hind tibia and all tarsal segments brownish black.

MALE: Same as the female in all essential details. Holotype: MALE: INDIA: Maharashtra: Aurangabad; and paratypes 16 females, 6 males, 8th August 1981 (Deposited in the Zoology Department of Marathwada University, Aurangabad).

### DISCUSSION

In accordance with the key to the Oriental, Australian and Eastern-Palaearctic species groups of *Xanthopimpla* Saussure by Townes and Chiu (1970), *X. minuta aurangabadensis* subsp. nov. fits in the Trunca species group in the characters of areola, mesopleurum microsculpture, areolet and the largest hair tip of the mid-hind-tarsal claws. In the key to the species of the Trunca group, Townes and Chiu (1970) this subspecies resembles *X.minuta lita* Townes and Chiu (1970) in the colour pattern of the ocellar triangle, scape, pedicel and body; microsculpture of propodeum and tip of ovipositor.

However, it differs from the same in having (i) a pair of black spots at the base of propodeum which are connected by a narrow band, (ii) brown mark on the mid femur and tarsals, (iii) dark-brown mark on the trochantellus, femur, base of tibia and all tarsal segments of hind leg, and (iv) black markings on the mesopleurum. In addition *X. minuta aurangabadensis* subsp. nov. is unique in possessing a black triangular mark at the base of the scutellum in continuation with median black band on the mesoscutum, lateral rows of hairs on the first abdominal segment, black mark at the base of fore wing, second geniculate recurrent and indistinct branchiella.

X. minuta aurangabadensis subsp. nov. may be included in the Key to the Indo-Australian species of Trunca group Townes and Chiu (1970), as follows:

- 9. Hind tibia 0.2 apically black; mesopleurum unmaculated; hind trochantellus yellow; only two apical tarsal segments black. Borneo .......... minuta lita Townes and Chiu (1970)
- Hind tibia, 0.2 basally black, mesopleurum maculated; hind trochantellus and all tarsal segments brownish. India: Maharashtra. .......... minuta aurangabadensis subsp. nov.

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# HOMALOPTERA MENONI — A NEW HOMALOPTERID FISH (PISCES: HOMALOPTERIDAE) FROM KERALA<sup>1</sup>

C.P. SHAJI AND P.S. EASA<sup>2</sup>

(With a text-figure)

## Introduction

The genus *Homaloptera* van Hasselt is represented by four species in the Indian

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subcontinent, namely *Homaloptera bilineata* Blyth, *H. modesta* (Vinciguerra), and *Homaloptera rupicola* (Prashad and Mukerji) are distributed in Burma. The genus is represented in India by a single species, *Homaloptera montana* Herre, found in Silent Valley and New Amarambalam area of

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